



M.O.E. Policy Manual

POLICY TITLE	APPROVAL OF EXPANSION TO PREVIOUSLY CONSTRUCTED AND UNAPPROVED FACILITIES	NO. 12-03-01
<p><u>Legislative Authority</u></p> <p>Sections 23 and 24 the Ontario Water Resources Act R.S.O. 1980</p>		
<p><u>Statement of Principles</u></p>		
<p><u>Definition</u></p>		
<p><u>Minor Works</u></p> <p>Those facilities designed to provide potable water for, or treat domestic sanitary sewage from, the equivalent of 500 person or less.</p> <p>Many water and sewage works which would require approval under Sections 23 and 24 of the <u>DWR Act</u> have been installed prior to the passage of the Ontario Water Resources Act or unknowingly without Ministry approval. Many of these facilities have been operating effectively without creating any health hazard (water supply systems) or environmental problems (sewage works).</p> <p>Occasionally, expansions to these unapproved works are proposed for which approval is requested. Hence, it becomes necessary to approve additions or expansion to works for which no previous MOE approval had been given. Since these additions can become physical extensions of the existing facilities, it becomes necessary to ascertain the state of the existing works to ensure that the new works are not jeopardized by previously unapproved and unacceptable facilities and that the old works are capable of accommodating expansion so the the entire completed system consisting of the old and new works can be properly operated.</p>		
<p>August 22, 1986</p>		
<u>Point of Contact</u>	Director, Approvals Branch	
<u>Effective Date</u>	December 24, 1985	

This policy emphasizes the need of obtaining information on the nature of the existing works before an extension can be considered, but recognizes the fact that the existing works, although unapproved, may have operated effectively without creating adverse health or environmental problems.

1. Application For Approval

When an application is received for the approval of additions or extensions to an older existing facility constructed without Ministry approval, the Director of the Approvals Branch shall request the applicant to provide information on the state of the existing works to ensure that the new facilities will not be jeopardized by the existing works and that the combination of the old and new facilities will be capable of operating in an environmentally acceptable manner and without creating any health problems.

2. Information Required

The amount of information to be provided by the applicant will be commensurate with the size and complexity of the existing works and the intended extension.

2.1 Minor Systems

For minor systems it may be sufficient to carry out an inspection by Ministry Regional staff to determine whether the existing works are suitable for extension.

2.2 Major Municipal Works

For major municipal works it will generally be necessary to obtain "as constructed" drawings certified by a professional engineer.

3. Works Upgrading

Prior to issuing approval for the extension, it may be necessary to upgrade the existing works where health and safety or the environment are at risk.

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4. Advice On Past Operation

Before requesting any upgrading of the existing works, the Regional Director will inform the Director of the Approvals Branch whether it is known if the existing works have been operated acceptably in the past and if problems have been encountered that require consideration prior to any approval for extension being given.

5. Certificate of Approval

The Director of the Approvals Branch shall issue a Certificate of Approval for the extension only if the new proposed work can meet Ministry guidelines and both the Regional Director and the Director of Approvals are satisfied that the existing works are amenable to expansion and that the combination of the old and new works will not represent a risk to health or the environment.

6. Construction Prior To Ministry Approval

Similar provisions that apply to works constructed when the OWR Act was in force are contained in Policy 12-02.